

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 AF-10 IO-14 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 OMB-01 ORM-03 SR-02 DRC-01 /150 W

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R 231222Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4857

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12357

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, MOPS, LE, XF

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL LEBANESE VIEW RE ME PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

1. AMBASSADOR MET WITH FONMIN NAFFA OCT 23 AT LATTER'S REQUEST. NAFFA PRESENTED AIDE-MEMOIRE (TEXT BELOW) WHICH GOL PRESENTING IN IDENTICAL FORM TO ALL PERMANENT SC MEMBERS. (DEPT REPEAT AS DESIRED.)

BEGIN TEXT: THE LEBANESE GOVT DOES NOT AT PRESENT POSSESS SUFFICIENT DETAILS ON THE TALKS WHICH MADE POSSIBLE THE FORMULATION OF RESOLUTION 338 ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 22, 1973. NEVERTHELESS, IT BELIEVES IT NECESSARY FROM THE OUTSET TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT:

1. LEBANON, NOT HAVING TAKEN PART EITHER IN THE MILITARY OPERATIONS OF JUNE 1967 OR IN THOSE OF OCTOBER 1973, CONSIDERS THAT RESOLUTION 242, AS WELL AS RESOLUTION 338--AT LEAST IN ITS FIRST PARAGRAPH--DOES NOT PERTAIN TO IT DIRECTLY. IT RECALLS THAT THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT WHICH GOVERNS ITS RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL IS THE ARMISTICE CONVENTION CONCLUDED IN 1949.

2. IN ANY CASE, LEBANON INTERPRETS RESOLUTION 242, CON-
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FIRMED BY RESOLUTION 338, AS PROPERLY FORBIDDING THE ACQUISSI-

TION OF TERRITORY BY FORCE AND REQUIRING, THEREFORE, THE WITHDRAWAL BY ISRAEL FROM ALL THE ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED SINCE JUNE 1967.

3. LEBANON DEPLORES THE FACT THAT RESOLUTION 242 RELATES ONLY TO "A JUST SETTLEMENT OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM", SINCE THE REAL PROBLEM AT ISSUE IS NOT A REFUGEE PROBLEM, BUT A POLITICAL AND NATIONAL PROBLEM: THAT OF THE FREE DETERMINATION OF THE DESTINY OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. IT ALSO DEPLORES THE FACT THAT RESOLUTION 338 WAS SILENT ON THIS SUBJECT, DESPITE THE EXISTENCE OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AS THE ORIGIN OF THE MID-EAST CONFLICT. IT IS CLEAR THAT IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SETTLED IN A SATISFACTORY MANNER, THE SEARCH FOR A "JUST AND LASTING PEACE" ENVISAGED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF RESOLUTION 338 WILL BE IN VAIN. FOR THIS REASON, THE LEBANESE GOVT MOST PARTICULARLY EMPHASIZES THE NEED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THIS PROBLEM IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS DECIDED BY PARAGRAPH 3 OF RESOLUTION 338.

4. LEBANON DESIRES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE. ALTHOUGH HAVING NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH ANYONE, IT FORESEES THAT IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS DECIDED UPON BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, CERTAIN PROBLEMS WHICH CONCERN IT EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WILL CERTAINLY BE RAISED. IT HENCEFORTH RESERVES ITS RIGHTS TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE STUDY AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THOSE PROBLEMS. END TEXT.

2. ABOVE IS FREE TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH. ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED TO DEPT. BUFFUM

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